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Serving San Jose State University Since 1934

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009

Volume 132, Issue 16



TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			
61	64	62	60

THE WIRE

STATE

Arrest imminent in Levy murder case

MODESTO — In the first few weeks after her only daughter disappeared, Susan Levy’s grief was so great she couldn’t move from the living room couch. By the time Chandra Levy’s bones were found in a Washington, D.C. park in 2002, her anguished mother began asking why it was taking so long to solve the high-profile murder case.

NATIONAL

‘Slumdog’ wins 8 Oscars, award for best picture

LOS ANGELES — “Slumdog Millionaire” took the best-picture Academy Award and seven other Oscars on Sunday, including director for Danny Boyle, whose ghetto-to-glory story paralleled the film’s unlikely rise to Hollywood’s summit. The other top winners: Kate Winslet, best actress for the Holocaust-themed drama “The Reader”; Sean Penn, best actor for the title role of “Milk”; Heath Ledger, supporting actor for “The Dark Knight”; and Penelope Cruz, supporting actress for “Vicky Cristina Barcelona.”

Returning soldiers to receive additional aid

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS



Roommates Christina Patron, a sophomore nutrition major, and Lea Endo, a sophomore occupational therapy major, build a snowman on Thursday.

STEFAN ARMIJO / Spartan Daily

Bringing snow to San Jose

Event part of initiative to provide alcohol-free events to students

SAMANTHA PATTERSON
Staff Writer

Students didn’t have the dilemma of snow chains or unsafe road conditions when snow uncommonly came to SJSU on Thursday, Feb. 19. With sunny skies rather than inclement weather conditions,

more than 200 participants from the campus community gathered at Paseo de Cesar Chavez to partake in some youthful fun and play in the snow at the Winter Carnival Snow Day sponsored by the Spartan Squad. The event was part of a new first Thursday initiative by the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Committee, which provides non-alcoholic events for students and the campus community on Thursday nights and aims to foster a greater sense of community at SJSU.

“We have worked collaboratively with many departments and campus organizations throughout the year each month to put on large-scale, fun and interactive events to involve students, as well as raise awareness about alcohol and drugs,” said Stephanie Hubbard, associated director of residence life. Darryl Scotti Events Inc. was contracted to bring in the ice and create snow which was bordered by hay bales. In addition, snow bubble machines were also set up to give the illusion

and feeling of falling snow. “It’s cool because you don’t get snow in San Jose,” said Shelby Shock, a junior global studies major. “It’s a cool concept but I wish there was more snow.” The winter carnival also consisted of music and numerous booths that offered a variety of activities. The Residence Hall Association contributed winter crafts to students, and gave them a chance

See **SNOW**, page 2

RELIGION

Faculty reacts to conflict in Gaza Strip

JULIANNE SHAPIRO
Staff Writer

When war erupted in the Gaza Strip in December, it sparked debate among students and faculty during the start of the spring semester. On Friday, Benjamin Netanyahu announced a coalition with another party that will make him Israel’s next prime minister. The pro-Palestinian demonstration at the appearance of Akiya Tor, consul general for Israel to the Northwest United States, on campus Feb. 5 launched discussion with professors campus-wide over what the possible solutions would be between Israel and Palestine.

Israeli-Palestinian State Solutions

The most recent discussion between Israel and Palestine is a resolution using the two-state solution, which was recently discussed at the Annapolis Conference in Maryland in November 2007, according to the Los Angeles Times. SJSU professors had their own opinions on other possible solutions between the two sides, while others said they agreed with the two-state solution.

See **GAZA**, page 3

TECHNOLOGY

For safety reasons, city begins replacing yellow street lamps

Sodium lights will be replaced by white-glowing LED bulbs

DAN LU
Staff Writer

Change could be coming to the streets of San Jose as the city is looking to replace 61,790 of its streetlights with new LED bulbs. The new LED, or light-emitting diode, bulbs will cast a white glow and will use new technology to vary its intensity and timing. Radio signals will be used to transmit information to dim, brighten or flash the lights during emergencies.

The current low-pressure sodium lights emit a yellow color, which can be easily confused with the yellow color of traffic lights. The San Jose Department of Transportation and the city said the goal is to reduce per capita energy consumption by half, and obtain all of the electrical power from renewable sources by 2022. Sustainability Officer Laura Stuchinsky and Streetlight Maintenance Supervisor Tony Ortiz, both from the department of transportation, said the LED lights will reduce light pollution into the night sky and use full cut off lights that will direct the light to the roadway and sidewalks.

See **LED**, page 2



San Jose’s yellow low-pressure sodium streetlights viewed from Highway 85 North and Blossom Hill Road.

KIRSTEN AGUILAR / Spartan Daily

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STEFAN ARMIJO / Spartan Daily

PHOTO BLOG

Audio Slideshow: The barbecue pits became a winter wonderland on Thursday for SJSU’s Snow Day. Photo Editor Carlos A. Moreno discusses problems with image copyrights in the digital era.

OPPOSING VIEWS

Podcast: Spartan Daily staff writers Julianne Shapiro and Samantha Patterson debate the ethics of professors assigning their own published books as required texts for their classes.

NEWS

Video: At the Second Harvest Food Bank, the San Jose Sharks teamed up with Tyson Foods and Lift Up America to donate food to people with needs.

SPARTA GUIDE

23 Today

The Art of Cool Cuisine

Green Vision Cafe presents a discussion about how to eat well while minimizing the impact to our environment. 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library. Contact Annie Stauffer at ib_annie@yahoo.com

Gallery Show

Featuring SJSU student artists. Through Feb. 27. In the School of Art & Design Galleries. Contact Ace Antazo at SJSU_Galleries@yahoo.com

LGBTQQI

Discussion Group

Co-sponsored by LGBT Resource Center and Counseling Services. Noon to 1:30 p.m. at the LGBT Resource Center. For more information, call 924-6158 or 924-5910.

Shedding Light on Eating Disorders

The Nutrition Education Action Team shares a student's perspective on myths and realities of eating disorders and finding help. Noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Union at the Pacifica Room. Contact Jennifer Waldrop at jwaldrop@email.sjsu.edu

24 Tuesday

Book Discussion

"Water for Elephants." Noon to 1 p.m. in Clark Hall, Room 100. Contact Annette Nellen at anellen@sjsu.edu

Buddhism Studies

A discussion about "Karma and the Principle of Causality." 4:30 p.m. in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library. Contact Albert Wang at xifualbert@yahoo.com

Embracing Real Beauty

Stacy Nadeau leads a workshop providing students with a fresh perspective on body image and developing media literacy skills. 6 to 7 p.m. in the Student Union at the Barrett Ballroom. Contact Jennifer Waldrop at jwaldrop@email.sjsu.edu.

Laughter Yoga Workshop

A yoga class that promotes good health, reduces stress and creates more fun on campus. No experience necessary. Noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Union at the Pacifica Room. Call Arya Pathria at 926-3307 or e-mail at laughaway@yahoo.com

Spartan Smart Cart

Fresh fruit and veggies. 10:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Clark Hall. Rain or shine. Contact Luisa Garrett at luisa@postalmodern.com

Tuesday Night Lecture Series

A discussion titled "Roman de Salvo: Circulation and Participation." 5 p.m. in the Art Building, Room 133. Contact Ace Antazo at SJSU_Galleries@yahoo.com

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon, three working days before the desired publication date. Space restrictions may require editing of submission. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received. Submit entries online at thespartandaily.com or in writing at DBH 209.

SNOW

Continued from page 1

to make snowmen out of cotton balls and other art materials.

Two of the big attractions at the carnival were the free treats and T-shirts.

Hot cider, cookies and Rice Krispies treats were among the goodies to indulge in and enjoy. The barbecue pit contained a small fire where students roasted marshmallows and made their own s'mores.

Lines grew long as students waited to get their hands on a free Spartan Squad T-shirt contributed by Associated Students.

A.S. hosted a game that includes a rival school dart gallery, giving participants a chance to aim for their biggest enemy and win a prize.

One of the more educational booths was a table dedicated to alcohol consumption awareness, where volunteers informed spectators about SJSU's alcohol policy, DUIs and numerous facts in relation to drinking and impaired judgment.

Participants had a chance to

wear fatal vision goggles and experienced being drunk without actually consuming any alcohol.

One activity was called "sex in the dark," where students, while wearing the goggles, had to place a condom on a prop that was nicknamed "woody."

Another activity had students attempting to walk along a taped straight line while wearing the goggles.

"It was really tough," said Christian Cox, a senior business major. "I thought it would be a lot easier than it was and I fell over."

"Snow day is cool," he added. "I had a great s'more, played in the snow, it was fun."

"I think it's great that SJSU puts on events that bring people together and that are out of the ordinary and let us enjoy a part of life that we don't always get to experience in the sunny Bay Area," said Katrina Swanson, a freshman English major.

The event was originally scheduled for Feb. 5, but was postponed due to weather concerns, according to an e-mail from Clifton Gold, the A.S. marketing and events coordinator.



SJSU students have a snow fight during the snow day event at the Paseo de Cesar Chavez on Thursday.

STEFAN ARMIJO / Spartan Daily

Investor shows how to find the right idea in tough times

Ronald Conway talks investing during tough times with students, attendees at library

STAPHANIE VALLEJO

Staff Writer

A crowd of more than 250 people attended the "Investing in Turbulent Times" seminar with guest speaker Ronald Conway, an investor and SJSU alumnus.

"It was really informative. It opened my eyes how new businesses are made and formed," said Alejandro Cuadra, an alumnus who graduated last year with a bachelor's degree in finance.

Conway spoke to students, alumni and entrepreneurs about investing their money and the characteristics they should look for when deciding with whom to invest.

"If you don't have an idea, find an engineer who has an idea and become the business person and the product visionary for that idea," he said. "If you can't think of an idea, go hang out where there are people who are thinking about ideas. I would do it at the school of engineering."

After 45 minutes of speaking, Conway opened the seminar for questions. Student Huong Van Tran asked Conway how an entrepreneur can grow his or her business.

"(Conway) said the entrepreneur should look for ways to do the marketing without spending money, like word of mouth," the business administration graduate student said.

Bac Tran, a senior corporate financial management student, said he thought the speaker gave helpful tips for students about to graduate.

"He taught me about investment skills, the current financial crisis and more stuff I need to know as a student in finance," Tran said.

Andy Manoske, a senior economics and computer science double major, said most of what Conway said can be learned in an intermediate economics class. He said he went to the workshop to hear the opinions of students from different colleges.

"It's more about seeing what other students are thinking about what's going on in the economy and how that shapes what the actual market is for new ideas at San Jose State," Manoske said.

As an angel investor, who Conway said is a person who invests his or her money in early-stage companies, Conway said he puts down at least \$50,000 to \$100,000 of his own money into new companies.

"To be an angel you need to have a couple hundred thousand dollars to invest so you can invest it across four or five companies," he said. "Get a loan or try and find other angel investors who would invest in that. Then you give them a piece of the ownership of the company in exchange for them giving you some of their money."

Some of the companies Conway has invested in include Google, Facebook, Photobucket and PayPal.

Swati Jain, a business administration graduate student, said she does not plan to be an entrepreneur but still thinks the information Conway provided was helpful.

"I'd rather work for a company and have less headaches and less responsibility on my plate," she said. "But it's always good to know what entrepreneurs should have and what investors look for. Any knowledge is good knowledge."

Elizabeth Tseng, a business administration graduate stu-

dent, said what she will take away from the seminar is choosing an entrepreneur who finds a practical solution to a practical need.

"It was interesting to hear an investor's perspective especially now since it's hard for everyone to find a job," she said. "The message that stood out to me most is cater to a need out there."

Conway also gave his views on the current state of the economy. He said that although he has seen four major recessions since he graduated in 1970, he has high hopes for Silicon Valley.

"I am an eternal optimist," he said. "We are absolutely going to come out of this economy. I think Silicon Valley is going to come out of the recession stronger than ever, just like we came out of the dot-com bust."

He encouraged students in

the crowd to take an accounting class no matter their major.

"While there's a lot of things you learn in college that you don't use forever, there's a lot of business classes that you will use forever," said Conway, who graduated with a degree in political science.

Ali Hasan, a junior business major, said he liked the fact that the speaker was an SJSU alumnus.

"This workshop gave a lot of promise to those investors who want to be entrepreneurs and future entrepreneurs not just business students," he said. "He opened my eyes to what the picture would look like for someone graduating from San Jose State and it helps he's alumnus himself"

Conway's last piece of advice: "Persistence pays."



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HIDDEN TALENTS

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Feb. 26 through March 1

CAMPUSIMAGES



Tony Truong (right) helps his fiancée Lena Le off a ledge during a photo shoot in front of Tower Hall on Wednesday, a week before their wedding. **MIKE ANDERSON / Spartan Daily**

After disruptions end event two weeks ago, no uproar at discussion

After Akiva Tor event safety was an issue, said club president

HOLLY SZKOROPAD
Staff Writer

Silence swept the forum, “The U.S.-Backed Israeli War on Gaza: The real aims behind the media lies,” Wednesday, where about 60 people gathered to listen to speakers discuss the violence and turmoil unfolding in the Gaza region.

The two-hour event was quiet compared with the Feb. 5 event with Akiva Tor, the consul general of Israel for the Pacific Northwest region, which was cut short due to protests from Palestinian supporters.

Although Wednesday’s event was held by the Muslim Student Association, the representatives of the club said they would have welcomed other views.

“I would have been happy

with anything that had happened because this is an educational event, and I feel that we were able to reach a lot of people on a personal level tonight,” said Karimah al-Helew, a social work major and publicity coordinator for the club.

The campus clubs in support of Israel, however, remained absent from the event.

Michelle Salinsky, the president of Spartans for Israel, said in an e-mail that the event did not have dialogue or work toward peace.

“If we were at the event, the only thing that would come out of it would (be) all of us getting verbally attacked,” Salinsky said. “We would have not felt safe at the event. We should always be able to feel safe on campus.”

Daniah Din, the moderator for the event, said that people came to learn from the speakers.

“We would have been fine with opposition,” she said. “This was a forum for people to learn more about what’s going on

in Palestine. If people had opposing views, that’s fine. Bring them.”

Sue Maltiel, the executive director of Hillel of Silicon Valley, the local chapter of the national Jewish organization, said in an e-mail that many speakers invited to SJSU by pro-Palestinian groups ascribe no responsibility to Palestinian leaders for the conflict.

“We understand how difficult life is for the Palestinian people,” she said. “Anyone with a heart feels for their plight and seeks a just solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and an end to the suffering endured by both Israelis and Palestinians.”

“We are committed to bringing programs that educate and shed light, not heat and hatred,” she added.

Wednesday’s event was also sponsored by the South Bay extension of Act Now to Stop War and End Racism Coalition — a national social justice organization — according to the organization’s Web site.

The discussion included three speakers: Karimah al-Helew, Mazda Majidi and Richard Becker, who are all associated with the organization.

Each speaker stood in front of banners stating, “Free Palestine” and “Occupation is a crime,” while they delved into the history surrounding the events in Gaza, and provided their own interpretations about why they think American media keep getting the facts wrong.

“They basically provided as little coverage of the crimes of Israel while it was happening,” Majidi said. “To the extent that they were forced to cover anything, it was always in the context that Israel was defending their survival.”



Mazda Majidi, an organizer with the ANSWER Coalition, speaks during a discussion about Palestine and the conflict in Gaza at the Barrett Ballroom on Wednesday. **MIKE ANDERSON / Spartan Daily**

GAZA | Professors divided over solution for Middle East conflict

Continued from page 1

Gil Villagran, a social work lecturer, said he had a different idea if modern-day Israel was not designated at the Jewish homeland in 1948.

“I know they looked at the Holy Land as their ancestral place, but there was a bunch of other people living there,” he said. “The best part of Germany should have been made into a Jewish homeland.”

Villagran also added that the one-state solution, where Israelis and Palestinians would live in one nation, would be like civil war. He said he thinks the two-state solution is the only current option.

Fayeq Oweis, a foreign languages lecturer, said that he believes a one-state solution is the answer.

“The whole thing is too small for two states,” he said. “Unless there is really an agreement that those two states would be collaborating with each other, that they would be depending on each other, then, it’s going to be very hard.”

Oweis said that his view on a solution is not the majority view and that many more people support the two-state solution.

Constantine Danopoulos, a political science professor, said that the two-state solution is the way to go, although what kind of states are the real question.

“That has been the issue for a long time. I think that continues to be the issue for a long time,” he said. “Israel would like to see a Palestinian state that is demilitarized, that doesn’t have the capacity to wage war, that will be a fairly weak state.”

For David Meir-Levi, a history lecturer, a peaceful two-state solution should come once Hamas, the organization that was elected to govern the Gaza Strip, is replaced by leadership dedicated to peace.

“The Hamas leadership now, very vociferously says, ‘we are going to destroy the state of Israel and slaughter every Jew,’” he said. “Israel and Jews don’t like that. I would hope that other people don’t like that either because we have learned, and the Jews especially have learned, that sometimes when people say that, they mean it – the Nazis almost did it.”

Hamas is listed as a terrorist organization by the U.S. State Department.

Students Should Care

The Gaza Strip is thousands of miles away from San Jose, yet SJSU faculty members said they stay attentive to the news from the U.S. media and other forms around the globe.

SJSU offers a Middle East studies program. In a pamphlet from the department, it says that the study of the Middle East is critical to the understanding of U.S. foreign policy and global political economy.

“It’s one world and the world is getting smaller and smaller,” Villagran said.

Persis Karim, an associate professor for English and comparative literature, said students should care about what is happening in the region because it is a human rights issue.

“I think it’s important for

Americans to understand the violence there is really fundamentally about an unresolved issue of territory — that the Palestinians lost territory and that a peace agreement has not really been ever realized, in part because of the question for land and sovereignty for land for Palestinians,” she said.

Meir-Levi also views it as a human rights issue for the Israelis.

He said that Israel gave back the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt as part of the Camp David Accords in 1979, and Jordan gained land in 1994. He said that both countries have had peace with Israel since then. After Israel withdrew from the Strip, however, within two weeks, they faced attacks from Hamas leadership, he said.

“The difference is easy to find because Hamas tells us,” he said. “Hamas said the problems of Jews cannot be solved by negotiations, negotiations are a waste of time. I am quoting the Hamas charter. The Jews must be, and their words are, annihilated. It’s very different from Egypt.”

Danopoulos said he urges students to use a Web site, World Newspapers, which shows newspapers and magazines throughout the world in English, so that they can read about sources within the two regions and educate themselves.

“See what the local press is saying, see who is saying what, what the issues are and how they perceive it,” he said. “There’s plenty of information. It’s helpful to get it from the source but it’s equally important to be balanced, look at one and look at both.”

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Top: Celine Dion on her “Taking Chances” tour in London.
Bottom: Dion during one of her “A New Day” performances.

Top: Photo courtesy of AOL Music
Bottom: Photo courtesy of CelineDionForum.com

CONCERT REVIEW: CELINE DION

Celine wows crowd at HP Pavilion

SAMANTHA RIVERA
Staff Writer

The musical masterpieces exuding from Celine Dion filled the HP Pavilion in Downtown San Jose on Friday, Feb. 20.

Clad in a sparkly mini dress, Celine appeared in the center of the arena crooning, “I Drove All Night” as she opened her show.

A montage of the countries Celine had visited so far on her world tour displayed on the flat screens as the show opened.

Many fans had anticipated the sold-out show, titled the “Taking Chances” world tour, after it was postponed last November due to throat problems.

Celine Dion vowed to make up for lost time as she graciously apologized for the postponement before belting her powerhouse ballad, “The Power of Love.”

Along with her graciousness, Celine brought her effervescent

personality and comedic wit to boot as she entertained the crowd with not only her musical genius but jokes as well.

“Have you been sleeping here every night?” she joked with the audience when referring to the November postponement.

Her classic hits such as “Because You Loved Me” and “All by Myself” were intertwined with some new songs from her latest album. But, it was obvious that the audience was most captivated, rising to their feet, when she brought out the classics.

Celine also brought along some of the Las Vegas dancing troupe from her stint at Caesar’s Palace. They engaged in spectacular choreography every time Celine would leave for a quick wardrobe change.

There were two brightly lit catwalks adjoining the center stage as well as revolving panels located in the front and back of the stage on which Celine would glide.

She constantly pumped her fist in the air in excitement as she relished the crowd’s energy.

Though Celine is best known for her ballads, she did some up-tempo songs, where she was able to show off her dancing abilities in quick, choreographed routines.

What was most impressive was that Celine was able to go on for almost two hours with only a few speedy wardrobe changes and no intermission.

Her voice did not falter and remained amazing, proving that she is one of the best female vocalists of our time.

Whereas a Britney Spears concert is mostly filled with dancing routines and electronically enhanced singing, it was clear that Celine’s concert was centered on her voice.

There is no need for any of the extra fluff because the woman just has to stand there and open her mouth and the audience is immersed.

Tickets for this world tour, which is rumored to be her last, were pricy but greatness does not come cheap. The audience got what they paid for. Closing out the show with “My Heart Will Go On” wildly satisfied the audience as some rose to their feet.

After finishing, the monitors revealed the scene backstage as the dancers, band and Celine exited. The real surprise came when the audience realized that everyone was exiting right there from the stage out of the arena.

So the lucky fans seated at the bottom of the HP Pavilion, close to the exit Celine and her crew were walking toward, got an up-close view of the singer. She even shook the hands of some of the fortuitous concertgoers.

It was one of the greatest concerts I have been to and it would be fair to say that most, if not all, of the audience left feeling lucky that they had been part of something so musically satisfying.

Dancers vie for cash and fame at Civic Center

ANDREA MUNIZ
Staff Writer

“America’s Best Dance Crew” had nothing on the groups that performed Saturday night at the San Jose Civic Auditorium.

More than 900 hip hop lovers attended B Box Entertainment’s “Battlefest Live 360” to watch some of the best dance groups in California get down and show the competition what they’re made of.

Ten competitors representing such cities as Sacramento and Long Beach participated in the event, all vying for the \$1,000 first-place prize and bragging rights of being “Battlefest Live 360” champions.

The only team representing San Jose that night, “Wrawsome,” had some members who had never even been to “Battlefest” before.

“I think it’s really exciting,” said SJSU student and “Wrawsome” dancer Vanessa Lalan. “I’ve never gone to ‘Battlefest.’ I’ve never seen it, so this is the first time I’m ever going to see it and now I’m in it.”

Groups brought their style, creativity and individuality to the competition. For Daniella Castillo, a senior dance major at SJSU, “Battlefest” is a place to support the dance community and see what people have come up with.

“I look for something that I can get into as an audience member. Something that ‘wows’ me, something that stands out that would make them look better than another group,” she said.

Third place went to “Odd-acities” from San Francisco who knew how to put on a show. They strutted out before their music began and sat around the perimeter of the dance floor. Audience

members from every angle could pick a dancer to watch.

Even though their costumes had a basic theme, a black shirt with “O”s dripping down to form the shape of a city and solid bottoms, they were able to add their own purple accents for individuality. One female dancer was wearing fairy wings while another had a giant bow on her butt. One performer donned a backpack through the entire routine and another sprayed his mohawk with a purple can of hair spray.

The creativity of the team and the personalities of individual dancers set it apart from the rest. They moved throughout the routine with sass and attitude, unafraid of big movements and performing for the large crowd.

“Pac Modern” from Long Beach won second place. Rather than use music that can be heard on the radio, they took it back to the early ‘80s with tunes such as Musical Youth’s “Pass the Dutchie” and a remix of Michael Jackson’s “Billy Jean.” They included hard-hitting breakdancing moves with a smooth, controlled style.

The real show stoppers of the evening were the defending champions, “Funk Beyond Control” from San Francisco. The team is mainly a youth group. Truth be told, some of those kids could dance circles around the adults.

Opening with the sound of Janet Jackson yelling “Gimme a beat!” the 20-plus dancers erupted in a step routine. No music, just hand claps and feet stomps to create beats of their own.

When the music began, it was nonstop energy. They hit their moves, gyrated, dropped it like it’s hot and got low like their mothers weren’t watching. The girls whipped their ponytail extensions around with purpose

and the boys flipped and punched their way through the routine. It was the future of hip hop dance, and it was good.

Although “America’s Best Dance Crew” shed light on hip hop dance competitions, Mark Dimalanta, “Battlefest” co-executive producer and SJSU alumnus, said he doesn’t think that the TV show should be compared to real dance competitions.

“It’s better than that, because you’re watching it live,” Dimalanta said. “The groups are bigger, it’s more intense. Their routines are longer.”

The fact that the routines are longer isn’t the only difference between “Battlefest” and other dance competitions.

The format gave this particular dance competition its name. The “360” refers to the dancing space for the dancers — the ground level floor in the center of the auditorium. While most performances are done on a stage, these dancers are eye to eye with their audience and only about a foot away. Similar to a boxing match or skating rink set-up, dancers must not only perform to the “front” of the room, but at all angles.

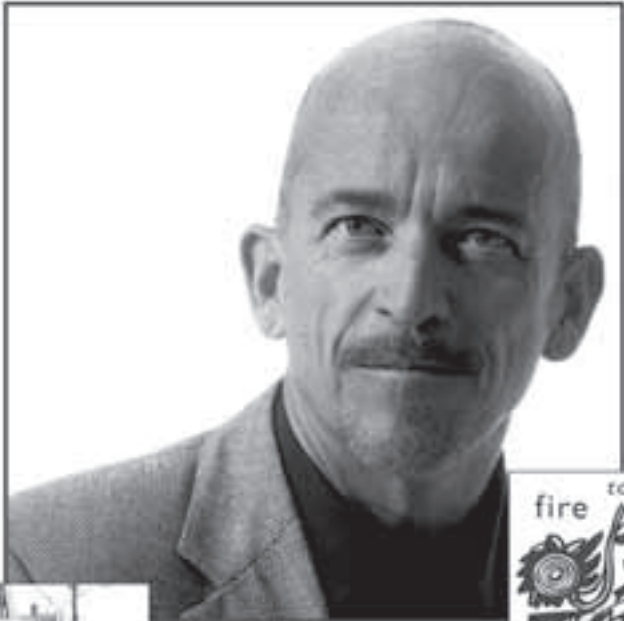
“We can honestly call this the hardest dance competition in the world,” said co-executive producer and SJSU alumnus A.J. Sioson. “The format completely changes you as a dancer.”

Along with the main competition, there were showcase performers and three-on-three battles where crew members competed on-the-spot from members of another crew.

Special guests “Supreme Soul,” who were finalists on the MTV show “America’s Best Dance Crew,” performed a piece for the audience and were available afterward for pictures.

Mark Doty with Paul Lisicky

Tuesday–Wednesday, February 24 & 25, 2009



dog years

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7:00 pm - Reading and Book Signing
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Wednesday 2/25, 1:30 pm
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All events are free, wheelchair accessible, and open to the public.

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SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

Spartans sweep season-opening series against Hawks

DAN LU
Staff Writer

In two doubleheaders held on Friday and Saturday, the Spartans' baseball team not only beat a looming storm, but also swept the St. Joseph's Hawks to start the season.

"If you asked me what I'm most happy about, besides the four wins, it's the fact that a lot of my guys got game experience this weekend," said Spartan head coach Sam Piraro. "Pitching-wise, position player-wise, a lot of playing time for a lot of people."

The Spartans outscored the Hawks 28-10 in the series.

In game one of the series on Friday at Blethen Field, senior pitcher David Berner threw a complete game shutout to defeat the Hawks 1-0.

Berner had no walks and recorded 10 strikeouts in the game. Junior third baseman Corey Valine hit a double that just missed being a home run, and junior second baseman Karson Klauer brought him in on a double down the third base line for the only run of the game.

The Spartans won game two 15-5 during the nightcap.

It was back to Municipal Stadium as the Spartans faced the Hawks on Saturday's twin bill. Under dark and cloudy skies, game three started an hour early at noon. The Hawks were quick to score the first run of the game in the first inning.

The Spartans responded with five runs while holding the Hawks scoreless for eight straight innings with the game ending 5-1.

During the second inning of the final game on Saturday, senior

right fielder Alex Sofranac hit a home run in right field to go up 1-0.

Sophomore catcher Bryson Rahier and freshman first baseman Anthony Bona both scored later that inning, putting the Spartans up 3-0.

"Everyone was doing their part," said junior center fielder Jason Martin. "If everyone doesn't do their part, I don't think we score all those runs."

The game went through three quick innings with no runs from either team.

In the sixth inning, freshman pitcher Craig Broussard relieved senior pitcher Ryan Shopshire.

The Hawks scored four runs to take the lead.

With two outs, senior pitcher Trevor Gibson finished the inning for Broussard. Gibson pitched the seventh and eight as well and gave up no runs while striking out three.

"He (Piraro) said I need your best stuff. He said bring your A game today, we need it," Gibson said. "Maybe that helped me step up my game a little bit."

In the eighth inning, the Hawks changed pitchers with Adam Rivera replacing Doug DiSandro, with men on first and second.

Spartans senior catcher Anthony Aguilera singled to the left side bringing home freshman infielder Michael Reiling to tie the game at 4-4.

"I saw the shortstop covering second base, so I just hit it that way," Aguilera said.

In the same inning, SJSU's Martin came to the plate with the bases loaded and singled to the left side and Bona raced across home plate to help the Spartans gain the lead, 5-4.



Infielder Michael Reiling starts a double play for SJSU, as a St. Joseph's player slides into second base at Municipal Stadium on Saturday. The Spartans won the third game 5-1.

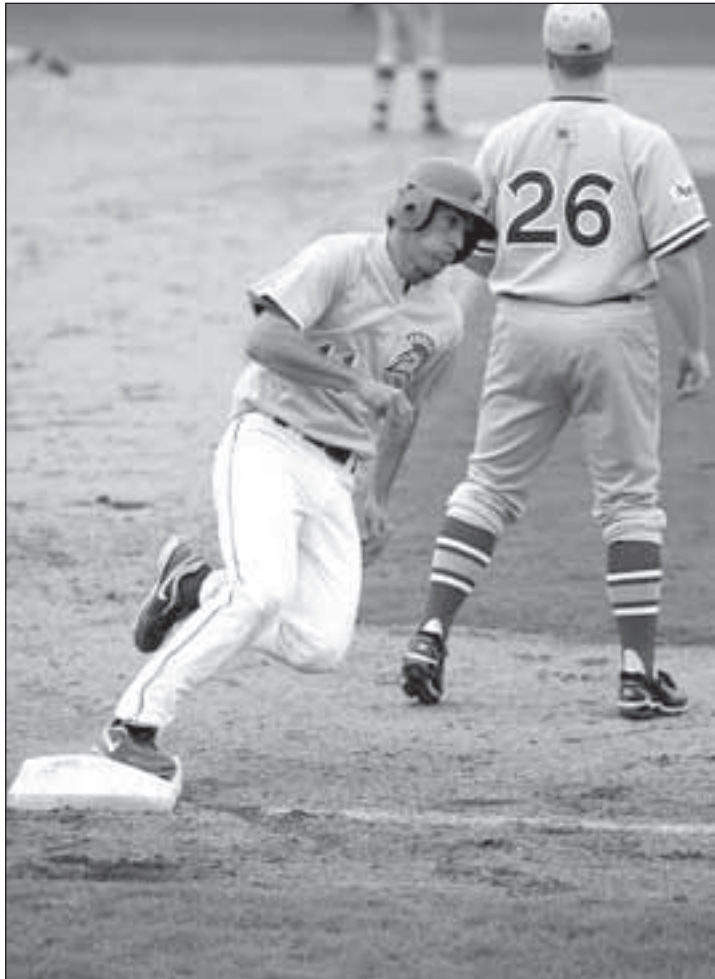
ANDREW VILLA / Spartan Daily

With no strikes and the bases loaded, the Spartans continued their offensive attack with two more runs, one by Aguilera, and then senior left fielder John Shaffer stole home to go up 7-4 to close the game.

At the top of the ninth inning, Spartans senior Anthony Vega went to close the game, putting the Hawks down in order.

"It's always a great feeling, especially to get four games in two days like we did," Rahier said. "Sweeps are always nice."

Series Stats	
Name	Hits
SJSU	32
K. Klauer	6
C. Valine	6
J. Martin	4
K. Bellows	3
A. Sofranac	3
B. Rahier	2
St. Joseph's	25
M. Barnathan	4
D. Valesente	4
R. McDonald	3
J. Cook	3
D. Smith	2
M. Blahusch	2



Karson Klauer rounds third base for SJSU against St. Joseph's at Municipal Stadium. The Spartans won the third game 5-1.

ANDREW VILLA / Spartan Daily



San Jose Sharks wing Claude Lemieux passes boxes to the Sharkie, during the "Lift Up America" food donation event at Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara on Wednesday.

CHAD ZIEMENDORF / Spartan Daily

Hungry families get help from San Jose Sharks

JESSICA AYALA
Staff Writer

Fifteen tons of food was donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank in San Jose by the San Jose Sharks in a charity event Wednesday afternoon.

Lift Up America and the San Jose Sharks partnered up with Tyson Foods to distribute the food to various soup kitchens and pantries in San Jose as part of an effort to end local hunger.

"Any time that we can come out and help out, especially for a cause like this, it feels great," said Sharks wing Devin Setoguchi. "It makes me feel good and it's for a great cause."

San Jose Sharks radio announcer Dan Rusanowsky, who began the event, took the opportunity to create awareness on local hunger.

"What a lot of people don't realize is there are many people who are hungry in this community," Rusanowsky said. "Over 200,000 people are serviced by this organi-

zation each and every year."

Thomas Karounos, a customer development manager for Tyson Foods said that in the past eight years, Tyson Foods has donated 54 million pounds of food as part of their commitment to fight hunger in America.

"Hunger, in children in particular, has a ripple effect that creates many other problems for our society such as physical development, problems and learning and behavioral problems in school," he said.

Another concern Karounos shared is how America can produce so much food, yet hunger still exists. He also added that with the economy in a downturn, he expects hunger to be more prevalent.

Lynn Crocker, director of marketing and communications for the Second Harvest Food Bank, said she also has concerns on how the economy has impacted local hunger.

Crocker added that there are more and more people seeking their services and assistance at the

food bank. She said they were averaged 176,000 people a month last year around this time, but by the end of 2008, the food bank saw a 13 percent increase on individuals who needed assistance.

"We were averaging 200,000 a month as we wrapped up 2008, moving into 2009 it's not looking like it's going to get any better any time soon," she said.

Crocker then expressed her appreciation toward Tyson Foods for making such contribution.

"This donation of protein will benefit thousands of low income individuals and families who just continue to struggle to make ends meet," Crocker said.

Another supporter of Tyson Foods and their commitment to ending hunger in America is Jeremy Roenick, who plays center for the Sharks.

"For companies like Tyson to come in and give the amount of food that they gave today is a tremendous thing," Roenick said. "It's always good to give to the needy and this is a really good example of that."



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Oliver’s return from injury not enough for a victory

HANK DREW
Staff Writer

SJSU’s leading scorer, Adrian Oliver, cut above the top of the key and released a shot with seconds remaining in a one-point game. The shot skimmed the rim and dropped to the ground with a thud as the final buzzer rang for a one-point UC Riverside victory, 53-52, Saturday night at the Event Center. Oliver shot 2-10 in the loss to Riverside.

George Nessman, the SJSU head coach, said his team’s 37 percent shooting percentage was the story of the game. “This just continues our frustration,” Nessman said. “The last three opponents we have played have basically challenged us to shoot shots.”

SJSU junior forward C.J. Webster started the game with six straight points until Riverside collapsed its defense into the paint, making entry passes nearly impossible. “They had five guys in the lane defensively,” he said. Nessman said Riverside’s lane-smothering style of defense often backfires with college-level teams because it leaves the perimeter undefended.

“College basketball players should be able to make over 40 percent of wide-open shots,” he said, “and we didn’t.” “The shots we took were wide open,” he added. “We just didn’t make enough of them to win the game.”

UCR head coach Jim Wooldridge said his team moved to a zone defense when the Spartans moved on to a five-point lead early in the game. “We knew we were going to play some zone tonight,” he said. “We felt like that was a good time to change the rhythm up a little bit.” Nessman said that Oliver, who was limping by the end of the game, was close to 100 percent, but his conditioning has affected his game. “The ankle is secure and fine,” he said. “He’s getting some tightness in the leg.”

Nessman said Oliver has not practiced much since Dec. 27, and this game was a good chance to give Oliver some in-game conditioning. “Our best chances are with Adrian on the court going forward,” he said. “He has to play his way into shape right now. ... He has to get out there and perform and play.” SJSU senior forward Tim Pierce played three minutes in the

first half because he picked up two early fouls. DeVonte Thomas replaced him, shot 75 percent from the field and had four rebounds. “DeVonte did a great job playing for him,” Nessman said. “We could have left DeVonte out there even longer.” Justin Graham, a Spartan guard, added a steal to his season total and broke the SJSU single-season record for steals that was previously set by Mike Mendez in 1981. But his performance also included seven turnovers. “He makes a lot of plays defen-

“This just continues our frustration.”

GEORGE NESSMAN
SJSU head coach

sively for us,” Nessman said. The Spartans went into the half trailing 31-26, and neither Pierce nor Oliver had scored a point. With under a minute left to play in the game, Webster hit two free throws and brought the Spartans within one point behind Riverside. Wooldridge said his team continued to shoot itself in the foot by missing rebounds and losing the ball. “Here we go,” Wooldridge said. “Someone is going to make a play.” The Spartans fouled on the inbound play and Riverside missed the front end of a one-and-one. Graham pulled down the rebound and ran the ball up court. With seconds left, Oliver curled to the top of the key and missed a shot. Nessman said Oliver should be closer to 100 percent by the next game against Idaho. “This is the only way to get someone to 100 percent in basketball,” he said. “They’ve got to be on the court. They’ve got to run. They’ve got to cut.” He said the team will watch film of this game Monday and break it down play by play. “And then we will move on,” Nessman said. “At that point you move on and we are on to Idaho. ... This is a big game for us and we need to be ready for them.”

Men’s Basketball				
WAC STANDINGS				
Team	WAC	Pct.	Total	Pct.
Utah St	12-1	.923	25-3	.893
Nevada	8-4	.667	16-10	.615
NM St	8-5	.615	15-12	.556
Boise	7-5	.583	17-9	.654
Idaho	6-6	.500	13-13	.500
Hawai’i	5-8	.385	13-13	.500
SJSU	4-8	.333	11-14	.440
La. Tech	4-9	.308	12-16	.429
Fresno	2-10	.167	11-17	.393



Spartan head coach George Nessman and junior guard John Williams react to a foul during the fourth quarter of SJSU’s loss to UC Riverside on Saturday. WILLIAM COOLEY / Spartan Daily

Name	Pts	FG%	Reb	Ast
SJSU	52	37.3	30	13
C. Webster	14	60.0	5	0
R. Owens	11	33.3	1	0
J. Graham	8	57.1	7	7
D. Thomas	6	75.0	4	2
UC Riverside	53	42.2	30	9
A. Kyle	15	45.5	3	2
J. Borum	15	50.0	1	1
J. LoBue	10	42.9	7	0
C. Soto	4	66.7	8	0

BLOG

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Sports Guide

Baseball

Santa Clara Fri 6:00 Municipal

Santa Clara Sat 1:00 Santa Clara

Santa Clara Sun 1:00 Municipal

Men’s Basketball

Idaho Thu 7:00 Event Center

Hawaii Sat 7:00 Event Center

Softball

Boston U# Fri 12:00 Spartan Field

Sac St. Sat 10:00*Spartan Field

Boston U Sat 12:00 Spartan Field

Tennis

UC Davis Tue 1:30 SJSU

Women’s Basketball

Boise St. Fri 7:00 Event Center

#Doubleheader

*a.m. game



Junior forward C.J. Webster grabs a rebound between two UC Riverside defenders. WILLIAM COOLEY / Spartan Daily

CLUB RUGBY

Banana Slugs squash Spartans

JUSTIN PERRY
Staff Writer

The Spartan club rugby team sustained a 43-24 loss to long-time rival Banana Slugs of UC Santa Cruz at the UCSC Lower Field on Saturday. The two teams were competing for the McBeath Cup, which is named after the now-retired Ron McBeath, a former SJSU professor and founder of the Spartan club rugby team. The Spartans came out strong at the beginning of the first half, as flanker Arvin Sanjideh scored a try in the fifth minute of play going up 5-0. The Spartans were unable to get the conversion. “San Jose played great rugby, very athletic rugby,” said referee Eric Rauscher. The Banana Slugs turned the score around with a try in the 13th minute, but the Spartans recovered as eighth man Colby Austin slipped past the Banana Slug defense and scored on a try three

minutes later, though the Spartans missed another conversion, but held a 10-7 lead. The Spartan defense held strong through most of the first half, but Santa Cruz managed to break through with two more tries and a conversion to take a 19-10 lead at the half. The Spartans offense scored at the beginning of second half with a try by hooker Joel Gaona, with help from back Matt Adgar. Scrum-half Hideki Maniwa scored the conversion to put the score 19-17. After Santa Cruz put more points on the board, forward Nick Cattaneo scored another try in the middle of the second half and Spartans were trailing by five points. But they were unable to score again. Santa Cruz took the cup with three more tries and two conversions. “It was a pretty poor display by San Jose State,” said Rollo Toste, a Spartan assistant coach and alumnus. “We probably threw away

some athletic advantage to their better play and better team playing. So they deserved to win. It’s a team game, it’s the ultimate team game.” Toste played for SJSU in 1973 during the club’s infancy, and then for the UC Santa Cruz rugby club from 1977 to 1980. Sanjideh, who suffered a head injury during the game, said that despite the loss, the Spartan club rugby team has improved some aspects of their play. “From previous weeks, our scrums were really good,” he said. “Our line-outs were a little iffy, we were getting the ball on the backline a little bit more this week,” he said. “All in all it was a pretty good game. Obviously it wasn’t what we wanted the outcome to be, but you know, it is what it is.” Gaona agreed. “It was a hard-fought game, both sides played very well,” he said. “In the end, we didn’t have enough to finish it off.”

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OPPOSING VIEWS: Is it ethical for professors to require books they have written for a course?

Online Exclusive

To listen to a podcast about about this issue, visit www.TheSpartanDaily.com



SAMANTHA PATTERON
Staff Writer

Students learn more from professors who author their own text

Some students grow weary when they are sent to purchase a book that a professor has personally written.

On the other hand, I think it's an advantage to take a course when an author teaches and lectures from a personally written book rather than a professor who has just studied from it.

Professors who write their own books can relate to the assigned readings which allow enhanced discussion and arguments about the text.

It's beneficial to have a lecture that matches to the reading. It's also a great opportunity to question the professor's ideas and theories, and argue his or her view points.

If you questioned material in a book other than the professor's own, he or she could only simply state what they think the author is trying to portray. A first person argument is more efficient and beneficial.

Most students think: "Great, the professor is going to know the book word for word, from the front to back, off the top of his head. This means only one thing — no slacking off and skimming the material hoping the professor will forget something in the text."

When I know the professor is

on top of the material and will be questioning me about it, I tend to pay more attention and learn more.

Professors who write their own books can relate to the assigned readings which allow enhanced discussion and arguments about the text.

I actually read what I'm assigned, so I'm prepared for class and what he or she is going to drill me about. No half-ass reading a chapter because I know the professors know every detail, considering they wrote it.

It's a pain to actually keep up

with the reading. I look back, though, and think I actually benefited more from a class that was taught from a professor using his own book as a resource.

A professor can focus on the material that he thinks is prominent to the subject matter when writing a textbook.

As if we don't pay enough for college tuition, I hate paying \$100 or more for a textbook when the professor doesn't refer to it as much as he or she should.

It is irritating when a professor doesn't cover all the material inside of the textbook during a course. At least when using a textbook written by a professor, you're more likely to cover all the material in the text and get your money's worth of education.

Some textbooks can come across strenuous or too simple. The effort professors have in writing their own textbooks al-

lows them to control the level of literature. This allows them to write and confer what they think and control the difficulty of their courses.

Authors usually revise the edition of their book every year. This can become pricy for students and often aggravating when they're not allowed to sell back the text at the end of the course because of a new addition being used for next semester.

Professors understand the amount of money students pay for books.

Usually, they keep the cost down for their book, and with few revisions, allowing you to sell it back.

Everyone benefits from a textbook written by the person teaching the class.

Samantha Patterson is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



JULIANNE SHAPIRO
Staff Writer

It is self-serving when professors assign textbooks they wrote

Attention professors: When students see your name on their class schedules, they don't wish to see your name again when they go shopping for their books in the Spartan Bookstore unless you're a celebrity.

Professors who require students to buy textbooks they wrote are incredibly self-serv-

ing. Students pay them to teach, not to satisfy their secondary job as salespeople to make more dough on the side. The tuition students shell out should satisfy their need for grocery shopping for the next four months without the need for extra revenue through book sales.

The primary goal of the California State University system is to teach students, whereas the University of California system is setup for the primary purpose of academic research, according to the Donahue Higher Education Act.

If professors wish to publish their findings and vast knowledge, perhaps it would serve best as published research instead of a teaching tool for SJSU students.

A more effective teaching method for students could be lectures from the professor, and then assigned reading that is different from the lecture and

from a different author. Students can then absorb a variety of voices and information other than what's in the professors' noggins. If professors repeat themselves in lecture based on their assigned readings in their books, chances are greater that the students are not learning to their full capacity.

If students feel the lectures are not helpful because the professors are, in fact, covering the same material they have already written about and assigned as required reading, students may feel more inclined to skip class. But, at least the professors pocketed some extra money, even though the learning experience has decreased.

Requiring textbooks in this current economy can hurt students, even those who receive grants and need to pay for books with left over financial aid money.

Since a professor has a right over his or her intellectual prop-

erty, it would also make much more sense for the professor to make photocopies of certain chapters for students. This way, the professor can boast about how intelligent he or she is while sharing the material with students who can save a bit of dough. Everyone wins.

If professors wish to publish their findings and vast knowledge, perhaps it would serve best as published research instead of a teaching tool for SJSU students.

If the professor still insists on the purchase of books, he or she could look at other options such

as e-books, where students can purchase a book one chapter at a time.

Another alternative would be for professors to create their own course readers. Course readers allow professors to include a variety of sources other than their own material.

If the professors wanted, they could even include a portion written by them. More importantly, course readers are friendly to a student's budget in the A.S. Print Shop or Maple Press.

Whatever the alternative, professors, just remember, students don't need to be beat over the head with the same information twice with the same name attached to it. Give students an option to hear more voices.

Julianne Shapiro is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

The satisfaction from googlebation



JESSICA FROMM
Staff Writer

I have a dirty little secret.

I don't do it all the time, just when I'm bored or lonely. It's really not that bad for you, and it doesn't make you go blind or anything, but it can be done to excess.

That's right kids, I'm a habitual Googlebater.

What is Googlebating, you ask? Well, it's ego surfing Google by entering your own name in a narcissistic search for hits.

You've probably done it.

Just about anybody who has found themselves with a lot of free time, or a tendency for Internet-aided procrastination has tried it. Basically, Googlebating is a form of mental masturbation involving search engines.

It's also startlingly addictive. Though I haven't gotten to the point where I've set up a Google Alert on myself, I've discovered that Googlebating is a huge ego stroke.

There is a weird sort of self-obsessive satisfaction in looking yourself up, or at least actively finding other people on the Internet that share your name.

According to a recent Googlebation of mine, I'm a distinguished abstract oil painter in New York (too bad my work looks like something hanging in a hospital waiting room), a college freshman track and fielder in Pennsylvania and a Swedish snowboarder.

Though some people may try to play off excessive self-searching as a valid form of monitoring their Web presence, unless you recently just gave birth to eight babies, just admit that you're, in fact, Googlebating.

Truth is, a wave of satisfaction surges across your vanity when you pop your name into that search field and come across hits of yourself.

Even our noble professors here at SJSU are prone to this brand of Internet-fueled self-love.

Take journalism lecturer Michael Stoll, who has a list of namesakes on his Web site (www.michaelstoll.com, of course) which he presumably collected from a serious session of Googlebation. Stoll's namesakes include a man convicted of murdering his wife in 1994, a guy who raises money

for blind babies and a German gymnast.

Truth is, a wave of satisfaction surges across your vanity when you pop your name into that search field and come across hits of yourself. It can be a huge confidence booster to Googlebate, and it's even better if you come across something positive.

There are some dangers to Googlebating, though. As with almost anything that involves overpowering narcissism, lets turn to the residents of LaLa Land for cautionary tales.

Celebrity news has gotten pretty slow lately, with Britney back in her cage and Paris finally getting too old for her shenanigans (that is, discounting the whole Rihanna/Chris Brown tragedy).

On a side note, I think it's important to parallel that whole bag of crazy with, say, the Michael Phelps "scandal." Phelps was roasted over the media bonfire and publicly dropped from all his deals for — smoking a bong. Chris Brown has been quietly suspended from his endorsement deals for — beating the crap out of his girlfriend.

Anywho, this deceleration of TMZ-ready material has brought about the popularity of the "controversial celebrity quote" and Googlebating has been the frequent subject of these superficial squawks.

Every so often, some ego-centric starlet mentions in an interview how they were

"shocked and hurt" after Googling themselves, finding out that no, not everybody wants to suck their toes. Shocked by the fact that, yes, their shit does stink, they plead with bloggers to stop this cruelty.

Take for example everybody's favorite self-righteous bourgeoisie, Gwyneth Paltrow. She told OK! Magazine this month how "wounded" she was after Googlebating and unearthing the fact that people think she's pretentious. I'm sure that marrying the dude from Coldplay, naming her kids Apple and Moses and regularly swapping pseudo-British accents with Madonna never crossed Paltrow's mind as ostentatious, but whatever, she'll return to her self-satisfied bubble soon enough.

Then there is Kevin Bacon, who admitted on The Graham Norton Show recently that after "master-Googling" himself, he accidentally ran across a video titled "A Tribute to Kevin Bacon."

The clip featured the Footloose actor as a stick figure being taken from behind by the video's creator, all to the tune of Bad Company's "Feel like 'Bacon' Love." Har har. Surprisingly, the Baconator was a good sport about it.

Still, the practice of Googlebating can be a useful tool, as demonstrated by the resourceful Lily Allen. Ever the delicate English rose, the singer got so wasted at last year's Glamour Awards that she blacked out

and woke up in bed not knowing how she got home.

What was her first reaction? Did she pop a few aspirin and spend a moment re-evaluating her life and out of control behavior?

No, Allen hopped on her reliable laptop and Googled herself. It was only after turning up paparazzi photos of her unconscious self being carried out of the building by a bodyguard that she figured out what happened the night before.

This classy application of Googlebation also has the potential to be utilized by the everyman, taking you live in a small town and have a penchant for petty crime.

Try Googlebating yourself and the name of your local newspaper. You may just bring to light how you woke up in the drunk tank last week with a new tattoo and a sore ass.

Though us mere mortals don't have to worry about uncovering such rampant criticism as the celebrity sphere when they Googlebate, be warned that self-searching can reveal some rather unpleasant skeletons in your closet.

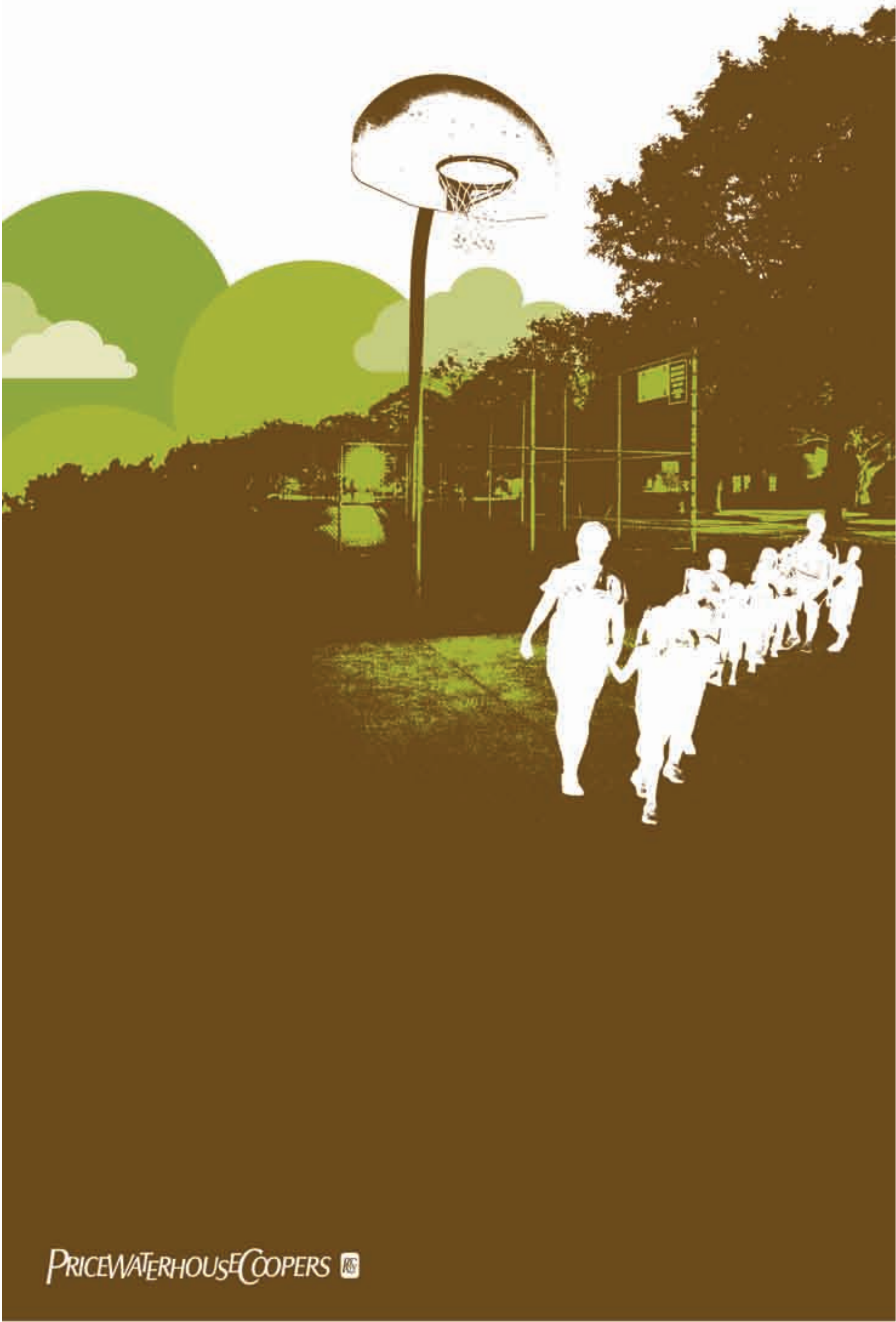
Take that into mind the next time you type your name into a familiar search engine and obsess over the size of your Web presence.

Jessica Fromm is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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